

Unusually

THE MICHIGAN FARMER,

A WEEKLY JOURNAL OF AFFAIRS

Relating to the Farm, the Garden, and the Household.

NEW SERIES.

DETROIT, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1860.

VOL. 2., NO. 52.

The Michigan Farmer.

R. F. JOHNSTONE, EDITOR.
Publication Office, 130 Jefferson Avenue,
DETROIT MICHIGAN.

The MICHIGAN FARMER presents superior facilities to business men, publishers, manufacturers of Agricultural Implements, Nursery men, and stock breeders for advertising.

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The Farm.

Report of the Board of Education on the Agricultural College.

[From sheets of the report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction furnished to us by that officer in advance of its publication, we extract the following statement of the financial condition of that institution, and the recommendation of the Board of Education for its future management:]

The reported indebtedness of the College on the first day of January, 1859, was \$13,472.73.

The receipts from January 1st, to November 30th, 1859, were as follows, viz.:

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Balance in College Treasury, Jan. 1st, 1859 | \$ 144 45 |
| Rec'd from State Treasurer on appropriation, 1859 | 17,676 45 |
| Rec'd for rent of houses and board of students, as shown by annual report of College Treasurer | 4,193 54 |
| Total receipts | \$22,014 44 |

The expenditures for the same time, including payment of indebtedness, were as follows:

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Paid by College Treasurer, on warrants, as per annual report, for 1859 | \$14,980 08 |
| Paid by certificates on Auditor General's order | 7,676 45 |
| Total expenditures | \$22,656 53 |

Balance in hands of College Treas. Dec. 1, 1859 \$96 93 |

Received from Dec. 1st, 1859, to Nov. 30th, 1860, as follows, viz.:

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Balance as above | \$ 96 93 |
| Rec'd warrants on State Treasurer, on appropriation | 18,319 43 |
| Rec'd from other sources as shown by Treasurer's report | 669 40 |
| Total receipts | \$19,085 76 |

The expenditures for year ending Nov. 30, 1860, were as follows, viz.:

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Paid by College Treasurer, on warrants, as shown in annual report for 1860 | \$18,135 72 |
| Paid by certificate on Auditor General's order | 219 43 |
| Paid by Treasurer on part paid warrants, and not included in his report | 259 25 |
| Paid by Treasurer for postage | 11 04 |
| Total expenditures for 1860 | \$18,625 44 |

Balance in hands of College Treasurer, Dec. 1, 1860 \$968 39 |

There was appropriated to the College by a vote of both branches of the Legislature in 1859, to pay indebtedness and meet the wants of the College for the years 1859 and 1860, the sum of \$41,500. By an error in the engrossment, this sum was reduced to \$37,500.

The present indebtedness of the College is as follows:

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Outstanding and part-paid warrants | \$1,845 87 |
| Audited and unpaid accounts | 241 87 |
| Due Members of the Board of Education | 301 44 |
| Balance of salaries due Jan. 1st, 1861 | 921 73 |
| Total | \$3,310 91 |

To meet these debts there is an unexpended balance of the appropriation, amounting to \$6,694 19 Balance in the hands of Treasurer \$68 39 |

Total **\$6,762 58** |

There will remain, therefore, after paying all the debts of the College, a balance of \$4,067.20.

From this there is to be deducted about \$700, which will be due the 15th of January, for the work not yet finished, of re-plastering the Boarding Hall.

The Board are much gratified in being able to present the Agricultural College thus virtually free from debt.

The unexpended balance of the appropriation will be needed as soon as it can be received from the State Treasury, for payment of demands before enumerated as now due, for a library of books treating on agricultural sciences, and for general reading; for needed improvements of buildings and of the

farm, and for drainage and other purposes already authorized by the vote of the Board.

Appropriations for the years 1861 and 1862, are asked for the following objects:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Salaries for two years | \$15,000 |
| Horticultural buildings, tools, team, &c. | 1,000 |
| Farming tools, clearing land, improving farm, fencing, &c. | 2,500 |
| Purchase of stock and teams | 2,000 |
| Barn for farm | 2,000 |
| Museums, laboratory, botanical grounds, &c. | 400 |
| Bridge across the Cedar river, or other Trust | 1,000 |
| Expenses of Board of Education, or other Trustees, for two years, and incidentals | 800 |
| Total | \$26,000 |

The Board have steadily looked forward to making the Agricultural College finally, to a considerable extent, a self sustaining institution. They have believed that the people of the State would ultimately demand this. But to accomplish so desirable a result, it will be necessary to add very considerably to the cultivated land on the farm. At least one hundred acres should be cleared within the next two years, and experience has amply demonstrated that it is poor economy to do this by the labor of students. An appropriation to this object will be more than repaid by the crops yielded for the first year. The farm will soon pay for all expenditures made on its account. When its full extent of tillable land is brought under cultivation, it will afford a large income to sustain other departments of the institution.

By a law passed in 1858, the swamp lands situated in the four townships of Lansing, Meridian, Dewitt, and Bath, were reserved for the use of the College and for purposes of drainage and reclamation. Considerable quantities of hay have been obtained for the College from the land, and the Board the past year authorized the expenditure of \$100 in drainage. Owing to the wetness of the season, the work was not done, but it is expected that it will be accomplished the next summer. When drained, these lands will make valuable meadows, and will enable the College to increase largely its amount of stock, which will then become an important source of revenue. Should the Legislature see fit to vest the full title to these swamp lands in the College, and allow such as are not needed for meadows, to be sold, and the proceeds vested as a perpetual fund, they would yield a very considerable beginning of an endowment, which, increased from other sources, as occasion might offer, would at no distant day, relieve the State from all burdens of taxation for this object. In addition to the farm, the garden and nurseries, will, it is hoped, soon become sources of revenue to the funds of the institution, while they serve also their appointed uses in the improvement and teaching of horticultural science.

THE FUTURE MANAGEMENT.

In their last annual report, the Board recommended that the care of the College be transferred to a State Board of Agriculture, believing that such a Board might win for the institution a fuller sympathy and support of the farming population, and also be able to devote a more special attention to its interests. This recommendation they would now renew, and commend it to the wise and deliberate consideration of the Legislature. The enterprise is as important and promising as ever to the great agricultural interests of the State. The fruits that have been growing slowly through these years of trial, are already ripening, and begin to give promise of the near approaching harvest. To whomsoever its future control be entrusted, it must, if successful, be kept true to the great arguments and aims which induced to its organization. It must be in fact, as well as in name, a school of agriculture, an institution devoted earnestly and exclusively "to the improvement and teaching of the science of Agriculture." Or, if in coming years, it shall be found practicable to extend its sphere, it should seek simply to embrace other of the useful arts in the order of their use and importance. A department of house architecture might be added with great advantage to the people of the State in which so many millions are expended for residences, school-houses, &c. So, too a department of mechanic arts, with a special reference to the construction and use of machinery, and particularly of that almost universal but complicated motive power, the steam engine, would be valuable

to the public interests.

In teaching Agriculture, the Board would also suggest whether there might not be established a lecture term, to be held in the winter, in which courses of lectures should be given by the several Professors, on the topics of their departments. Large numbers of farmers would find leisure in the winter to attend a course of lectures on farming. And while the College was thus extending its usefulness, it would be attracting many students who might conclude to pursue its full course of studies.

The Currency Question.

MR. EDITOR:—Among the many valuable suggestions of your paper, those in regard to the currency would have been, if properly heeded, of special importance to the people of this State during the past year. And now the question arises, are we to profit by the light afforded? Or will we continue to take western rage for produce and refuse to learn in the school in which even fools are said to improve?

It is not in the hope of adding light to the subject that these lines are offered, but if possible to call out an expression from those interested, that we may determine whether or not the time has come when farmers will demand and receive one hundred cents per dollar for their produce. It is useless for one man or one hundred men to refuse "western" but a united effort will rid the State of the pest.

It is also useless to depend on the new banking laws and a State currency to help us out of the difficulty, for if that should supply us with an abundance of reliable funds the very fact of its being reliable and safe will keep it out of our hands so long as we are willing to take a cheaper article.

"Western" is not here in the legitimate course of trade, and will never be displaced by a better currency except against the will of many dealers.

For example, a miller forwards a quantity of flour to New York or Boston, which sells for \$10,000, he receives eastern money, and instead of paying it out for wheat, he sells it in Chicago for western at a premium of from one to five per cent, and realizes from one to five hundred dollars profit by the operation. He is then prepared again to purchase wheat and repeat the process. And when the bulk of the produce has gone forward and western is well spread and fairly settled into the pockets of the farmers, the brokers come in for their share of plunder, a "panic" is got up to order, things are looking very bad, Lincoln has been elected, South Carolina is going to secede, the people of Europe are going to live without eating; "the Union is dissolved;" "the Southern Confederacy will not buy Northern fabrics;" the President is scared, produce goes down, goods are down, United States stocks are down, State stocks are down Rail Roads are down, Western money is down. And now, dear brother farmers, there is no hope of a compromise; no strength in the government; no public confidence. The English will not buy bread, though ever so hungry, and the Southerners will not buy goods, though ever so naked. In short, things will not look better until you are thoroughly fleeced.

The same brokers, or one horse shavers who ten days ago paid you the rags over their own counter, with their own verbal endorsement that they were "good," can now hardly be induced to touch it with a pair of tongs; and yet it is as good now as then, and they know it, if competent to manage their business; though as a special act of charity they will take it 75 cents per 100, but they are afraid they "will lose by the transaction."

Take another illustration: A is a merchant—B is a shaver, and pays on a check for produce a certain ten dollar bill which is immediately given to A for goods. He deposits it at night with B, and pays ten per cent. discount. It is not current east, and so cannot be sent forward to draw exchange against, so is again paid out at par, and again returned and shaved. In short, A or some one else pays B one dollar a night for keeping that bill, and whoever buys the goods pays the same.

Of the moral honesty of paying out money at par which will not be taken at par, I have nothing to say. Doubtless the opportunity to board money over night at ten dollars a hundred, would strain the morals of better men.

And now, farmers, what is the verdict? Will you take the trash, or will you let it alone? Decide, and let your decision be known through every newspaper in the State.

Yours truly,

ANTI-SHAVE.

Book Farming.

Farmer Slipshod says, "he will not have an agricultural paper in the house, would not use one for shave paper; is opposed to book farming;" says "the writers and conductors of agricultural journals are your genteel, white-fingered, kid-gloved gentry that are entirely destitute of all practical knowledge of farming, for none others can spend time to write;" and "if he should practice their foolish theories he would be a ruined man."

Now some may think there is but one Farmer Slipshod in the State—they are mistaken; there are many farmers that think it very necessary for the physician, merchant &c., to glean whatever knowledge they can pertaining to their business, and from what ever source, but he knows all that is necessary to be known about his business, his mind cannot be enlarged or strengthened or invigorated in any way. But I agree with Slipshod that it is not the fine spun theories of "kid-gloved gentry" we want, but the actual experiences of the sunburned, hard-fisted farmer. There are few, perhaps, that have not gained some knowledge in some department of their vocation, or had some experiences that are worth communicating, and there are few that cannot impart such knowledge in a plain, interesting manner to a neighbor; but the idea that farmers generally would be interested or perhaps benefited by it never occurs to them.

Slipshod takes the Ledger—I would like to know if he practices all the love sick nonsense he finds in that.

PROGRESS.

Sorghum—its Manufacture.

MR. EDITOR:—Sir: In an article published in your issue of the 8th inst., I gave a little of my experience in the culture of the Sorgho, and promised to speak of the manufacture of it at another time, which I now propose to do.

The great difficulty in the manufacture of the Sorgho appears to be the separation of the vegetable from the saccharine matter, and unless this is done it is impossible to make a good article of syrup; for if any vegetable matter is allowed to remain in the juice during the process of evaporation, it is burned, and gives the syrup a dark color, and also an unpleasant flavor.

Now from what experience I have had in the manufacture of the Sorgho, I am prepared to say that this separation can be produced through the agency of heat alone, if properly applied, and that all chemical agents such as lime, milk, eggs, &c., are useless or worse than useless.

When heat is applied to the Sorgho juice the scum or vegetable matter rises to the surface just when it reaches the boiling point before ebullition begins, and if it can in any way be taken off and not allowed to mix again with the juice, the syrup will be as clear as honey. It is impossible to do this, when it is boiled in common kettles or pans for when ebullition begins the current is continually carrying the vegetable matter with it, so that it does not remain upon the surface long enough to be taken off.

Cook's Evaporator, the apparatus which I have used the last two years for boiling the Sorgho juice is so constructed as to obviate entirely this difficulty. It is a perfect cleanser of itself, the heat being so applied as to act only upon the centre of the pan, while the sides do not boil, and the scum actually flows there and remains until it is taken off.

In using this evaporator a stream of juice is allowed to flow on the pans at one end and along the transverse channels into which it is divided until it reaches the other end, where it runs off good clear syrup, if the stream of

juice running on has been regulated according to the fire.

A good fire is necessary to evaporate fast, and in fact it is necessary to make a good article of syrup, for by allowing the juice to remain a long time over fire, a dark color is imparted to the syrup. Light wood is the best, or wood that will blaze quickly and not leave a bed of coals.

This year I made nearly one thousand gallons of syrup with one of these evaporators, every gallon of which was good and will sell in any market at five and six shillings per gallon. The evaporator which I used was the largest size and was capable of evaporating two barrels of juice per hour. I think Cook's evaporator the thing and just the thing for making good syrup from the Chinese cane, and would recommend it to those engaged in raising it. It is no humbug, and it will do just what what it is recommended to do. The principle upon which it operates is the true one, and I believe it is destined to be the means of making the culture and manufacture of the Sorgho plant a permanent thing in this section of the country.

I will next speak of the profits arising from the culture and manufacture of the Sorgho.

MARK.

Raisin, Lenawee Co, Mich., Dec. 21st, 1860.

What Time is Best for Cutting Timber?

We note that the best time for cutting timber for posts is being considered. The time chosen generally is the winter season. But it is claimed that the season to cut timber so that it will be most lasting and contain the least sap, is July or August. Those who advocate the cutting of timber at this season instead of the winter months, argue that by the "latter part of June the principal portion of the sap has left the trunk of the tree, and gone to its extremities, where it has been elaborated by the leaves into suitable food for bud, twig, and a new layer of wood to increase the diameter of the trunk. The heart of the tree contains then little or no sap, and the circles that surround it, called sap wood, have but a small quantity compared with what they held in April or May. At this period, like some other operations in nature, the bark yields to the downward pressure of the elaborated sap, and makes room for its deposition. In some cases, where the soil is rich, and the growth of the tree luxuriant, the bark will split through the entire length of a young apple tree, and with a width of a fourth of an inch; and although the season then has passed, in which trees are usually peeled, there will be no difficulty in removing the bark from large trees, when the timber will be found seasoning rapidly, and becomes exceedingly compact and hard."

The New England Farmer refers to hickory which, it says contains a sweet sap, sweeter, perhaps, than that of the maple; insects instinctively turn to it as a suitable place to deposit their eggs and for hatching their young, and we have seen axe helms and large quantities of the finest looking ox-bows rejected, in consequence of being perforated by worms. The term applied to such timber is *powder-post*. When in this condition, it becomes utterly valueless for any purpose where strength is required. Persons who deal in such timber are obliged to keep it in cellars or damp rooms, and darkened, so as to prevent the entrance of the insect that deposits the egg pregnant with so much mischief.

Mr. Glaser, a carriage maker in this city, splits up his hickory into small sticks and lays them in mud puddles to soak, or in the water that flows from manure heaps, for a few days, and then puts them up to season. This practice makes the wood harder and tougher, and is a protection from the fly, which is driven away by the disagreeable smell.

Wheat in Tuscola County.

We have the authority of Mr. James Andrews, of Ellington, that a neighbor of his, Mr. David Bearss, raised this season, from five acres of ground, 230 bushels of winter wheat. This beats any report we have given of grain-growing in this section of the country, being a clear average to the acre of 46 bushels.—Tuscola Pioneer.

MICHIGAN FARMER.

R. F. JOHNSTONE, EDITOR.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1860.

THE MICHIGAN FARMER.

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| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
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The Close of Volume Second.

The present number completes the volume of the MICHIGAN FARMER for 1860, and the second of its weekly issue. It is also the nineteenth volume since the commencement of the FARMER as an agricultural journal in Michigan. The year just past, which has been an exciting one on political matters, has not been favorable for journals outside of that particular interest. Nevertheless the MICHIGAN FARMER has been better sustained than it was the year previous, which was a peculiarly severe one on the agricultural interest, and one which tested all our courage and resources. No year, however, more satisfactorily proved the necessity and the utility of a farmer's journal in this State, which had for its sole principle the support of the agricultural interests. Our readers well know, and if they do not they can refer to our columns during the months of April, May and June, how firmly, boldly, and in the face of the whole wool trade themselves, we gave them such advice concerning their wool clip that it saved to the State many thousands of dollars. They will remember that while nearly every paper from the east and in the west was freighted with accounts of the determination of manufacturers, speculators, agents, and commission houses, not to pay over certain rates, better prices were wrung from them, and the results known to-day bear us out in the judgment then expressed. The great grain crops which have enriched the State with their bountiful produce, have also

during the season received a most constant attention, and the great markets have been watched with care, and their fluctuations criticized with sole reference to western interests. Nor have the great material interests of the farm been neglected. A glance backward over the pages of the volume now completed, or through the index which we have prepared, will show that the crops, the horses, the cattle, the sheep, the swine, the fruit, and the operations of the farm have each been treated in their turn, and that an immense amount of information, both practical and theoretical, has been collected and laid before the readers of the FARMER, and, principally with a view to promote the agricultural interest of this State. The new volume begins with the next number, and hoping that all those who have accompanied us through the past year will again signify their intention of being with us for 1861, we wish our readers and friends a Happy New Year.

The Market Prospects.

We must say at the close of the year that the prospects of the north west never were brighter than they are at present. The most recent advices from the other side of the Atlantic lead us to the impression that a demand will exist for all the surplus produce of Michigan and other western States during the whole of next season, previous to harvest. Already the demand has been so great, in comparison with the import of goods, that the current of exchange has turned in favor of the United States, and as a proof of this, we notice that every steamer from Europe now brings large amounts of specie, and the sums received last week from all sources at New York reached nearly six millions of dollars, of which at least four and a half millions came from Europe. Capital is therefore accumulating at the east. Meanwhile, the export trade of breadstuffs continues, and prices have improved in New York. The New York Economist noting the market of last week relative to wheat, says:

"Wheat has advanced full five cents per bushel since Tuesday last, and at the advance there has been rather more doing, both for export and milling, notwithstanding holders have not been eager sellers at the improvement. The advices from abroad are favorable, and with light offerings, small receipts, &c., holders are quite firm and still offer stocks sparingly, in expectation of a farther considerable advance soon."

The export of wheat from New York for last week was 739,253 bushels, valued at \$900,488, and of flour the export was 63,047 barrels, valued at \$345,908. With such an export demand, it will be seen, that the eastern ports will be cleaned out before the opening of navigation, and that there will be one of the best markets for western produce that has ever been seen on this continent. This market will also be for cash; money as we have shown above is accumulating at the east, and all who make purchases are ready to pay either eastern currency or gold or silver.

The prospective demand of trade will make the freight and lake trade very remunerative, and bring into commission every vessel fit for navigation, and will give employment to a vast number of hands at high wages. This state of business must revive trade, and when we look forward, simply to the prospects of business, and especially of the agricultural interests, we have no hesitation in saying that unless some great unforeseen calamity should happen, of which there are no signs at present, the spring of 1861 promises to be one of the best for business of all kinds that has ever been seen in Michigan.

With these prospects, it is important that every farmer who would keep himself posted, and ready to take advantage of the times, should subscribe for the MICHIGAN FARMER, and thus make himself acquainted every week with the state of the markets through a journal devoted solely to the agricultural interest. It will be seen that we offer it at rates cheaper than any eastern paper can be had.

It will be seen by a communication from Marshall that a correspondent, who is a farmer, thoroughly understands the western currency business. We think ourselves that ten dollars is a very good price for lodging a few western bank notes over night.

We print an important part of the report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, relative to the financial condition of the Agricultural College, this week, advance sheets having been furnished us by that officer. We shall refer to other portions of this report next week.

A slave named the Bonita, with 713 negroes on board, has been captured by the United States steam frigate San Jacinto.

Political Summary.

Last week we had barely time to chronicle the fact that the convention called by the people of South Carolina had passed what they called an ordinance of secession. This week we are obliged to say that however forcible the secessionists of that State may have made the resolution in words, in actual fact the State is no farther removed from the United States than she was this time last year. The postal arrangements are still carried on by the United States government, and the revenues are collected in her ports just as usual. The convention and the Legislature have each removed to Charleston from Columbia, the prevalence of the small pox in the latter city, determining the change of locality for the session. R. W. Barnwell, James L. Orr, and ex Governor Adams have been deputed as commissioners to proceed to Washington, with power to treat in regard to the relations which are to exist for the future between South Carolina and the federal government, also for the session of the courts, arsenals and other property which South Carolina may claim. The members remaining in congress withdrew without any formal address, but both senators and representatives, as we understand draw their full pay up to the fourth of next March, which was doing the business about as sharp as could be desired.

Much excitement and speculation exists as to the forts in Charleston harbor, which are threatened to be seized in defiance of government. The refusal of the president to garrison them, and his general course in the state of affairs which exist, almost bring him within the limits of cause for impeachment. The orders from the war department to remove a large amount of heavy ordnance from Pittsburgh for the use of forts in the coast of Texas, and of Louisiana, have been vetoed by the people of that city, who have refused to let them be taken away, as munitions designed to be placed within the reach of conspirators against the Union. As men of the President's party were engaged in this movement, the fact is taken significantly of the complete loss of confidence that is felt in the President and his advisers, and the belief that prevails that he lacks in patriotism and courage. In regard to this latter quality, it is stated by the New York Herald, that the president informed a southern gentleman, who remonstrated with him on the non-support of Major Anderson at Fort Moultrie, that he would not give them support, as the moment he did, he would be assassinated. The report if true is a decided imputation on the courage, inflexibility and devotion to duty that should be at the head of government.

The great event of the week, however, is not secession, or what transpires in congress, it is the well ascertained robbery of the Department of the Interior of eight hundred and seventy thousand dollars worth of State stocks, which belonged to the Trust funds of the Indian tribes. This transaction so far as we have any information relative to it, is reported as follows: The Messrs. Russell & Wadham are army contractors in Missouri, and not having means of their own to carry on their contracts, they applied to the Secretary of War for certificates or acceptances as they are called. These orders of Russell on the War Department, were drawn against amounts not due, in advance of the performance of their contracts. The Wall Street brokers did not like the looks of this kind of paper, and refusing to negotiate it, Mr. Russell had recourse to Mr. Godard Bailey, an under secretary in the Department of the Interior, who had charge of the safe keeping of the State stocks in which were invested the Indian funds. This latter person, surreptitiously, abstracted the stocks, and put in their place the drafts of Russell on the War Department. Mr. Russell taking the stocks and hypothecating them for the money he could not otherwise raise. It becoming known that the stocks were out, Godard Bailey had no other resource but to confess the crime to the secretary of the Interior, which he did, who immediately had an examination made, and the whole transaction was disclosed. Bailey and Russell have been arrested. Much blame is attached to the Secretary of War for the illegal method he has chosen to do the business of his department, for the acceptances are considered as a violation of his oath of office. Steps have been taken by the Secretary of the Interior to recover the stocks, and it is supposed that the government will not lose a great deal by the operation. But the whole affair has had the effect of still farther sinking the administration in the minds of the whole country.

The telegraph announces that Fort Moultrie has been abandoned, that the guns have been spiked, and the gun carriages burned. The garrison has been withdrawn, and possession has been taken of Fort Sumpter, by Major Anderson. This, we suppose, has been done in pursuance of orders. Fort Sumpter commands the city of Charleston, as well as the entrance to the harbor, is entirely surrounded by water, and is capable of being defended by a few men, whilst Charleston itself lies under its very embrasures almost. We are inclined to look at the movement as a sound one in a military point of view; but what must we think of the President and the War Department. We can only say that words cannot express the indignation nor convey an idea of the contempt with which he is regarded even by those who have heretofore been his friends.

Meanwhile, important visitors have been at Springfield, Illinois, invited there by the President elect. Edward Bates, of Missouri, has been there. Rumor assigns him an important position in the Cabinet. Thurlow Weed, of New York, has been there, an invited guest, or else he would not have gone. He speaks well of the impression made upon him by a personal acquaintance with the great elect. David Wilmot, of the famous proviso, has also been called to Springfield. Of course there are any quantity of rumors as to the result of these interviews, but there has not yet transpired a single announcement of any kind that can by any possibility be considered as authentic. The St. Louis Democrat announces that Mr. Bates is to have a place in Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet, certain.

Meanwhile, January promises to be an eventful month, as Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia hold their secession conventions, and we shall probably

have other repetitions of the farce got up by South Carolina. However, we believe the country strong enough and able enough to control the whole of this action, only let us once more see a man in the presidential chair, instead of the rabbi-hearted functionary that now afflicts the country.

Congressional Summary.

Dec. 21.—In the Senate, the Baltimore and Ohio railroad bill was taken up, and after various amendments of a local nature, agreed to. Mr. Davis of Mississippi, (having previously asked to be excused), made a personal explanation and signified his willingness to serve on the Committee of thirteen.

Dec. 24.—In the Senate, Mr. Fessenden introduced a bill to grant public lands and loan the credit of the government to the People's railroad. Bills were introduced by Mr. Bigler, of Pa., to suppress the invasion of one State by another, and by Mr. Wilson, of Mass., for the more effectual suppression of the slave trade. Resolutions in regard to holding a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution, were introduced by Mr. Pugh, of Ohio. Mr. Douglas presented several amendments to the Constitution. The bill for the admission of Kansas was taken up, when Mr. Nicholson, of Tennessee, took the floor in a reply to the recent speech of Mr. Johnson, of the same State, taking the ground on the Carolina secession, that any resort to force by the general government would be equivalent to a declaration of war against South Carolina. The Kansas bill was made the special order for Monday next.

In the House, the South Carolina members made known the action of their State and took a formal leave. The Speaker directed that the names of the seceding members be retained on the roll, not recognizing the action of South Carolina as severing their connection with the House. The Speaker laid before the House information from the Secretary of the Interior, that State bonds held in trust by the United States for the Indians, amounting to \$970,000, had been abstracted by an officer of the department and converted to private use. A committee of five was appointed to investigate the matter. Mr. Cochran, of New York, offered a preamble setting forth the dangers that menace the Union, suggesting the removal of the slavery question from the halls of Congress as a remedy; concluding with a resolution expressive of the opinion of Congress that slavery shall not exist in the territory north of 36 deg. 30', and that the States formed therefrom may or may not have slavery; as they decide when they form constitutions, and that neither Congress nor the Territorial Legislature shall prohibit it south of that line; also that the coercion of any State to compel an observance of the federal compact, would be levying war upon her. It was proposed as a substitute that the Judiciary Committee be directed to inquire into the relation existing between the federal government and the State of South Carolina, and the duty of the Executive in the matter. The consular and diplomatic appropriation bill was passed, and the House adjourned till Thursday.

State News.

Hon. John McKinney, the present State Treasurer, has been granted a patent for an improved coupling for railroad cars. We understand that the new plan is at present being tested on the Michigan Central Railroad.

The Presbyterian Society of Birmingham have just finished and dedicated a large, well-built and beautiful house of worship. The Rev. Dr. Hogarth, of Detroit, preached the dedicatory sermon.

A young man by the name of McArdly, of Worth, Sanilac county, was killed on Thursday of last week by the falling of a tree which he was felling.

Lumbering.—There is a prospect of a heavy lumbering business being carried on during the present winter in our counties. The lumbering season has commenced earlier this year than usual, and there are quite a number of the lumbermen who have not yet got to work with full forces. Should steady cold weather continue, the amount of logs got in will exceed last year's.—Sanilac Jeffersonian.

Prof. Ripley, Principal of the Jackson Union School, has been appointed to the professorship of Mathematics in the State Normal School at Ypsilanti.

The people of Newark, Allegan Co., intend to apply to the Legislature to pass a law for their benefit, similar to the Holland harbor act. The design is to clear out the mouth of the Kalamazoo river, and thus make it navigable for a light-draught boat as far up as Allegan.

Preparations for the manufacture of salt at Saginaw, are being pushed forward with vigor. Probably not less than half a dozen wells will be in operation next summer.

The Treasurer of the township of Camden, in the adjoining county of Hillsdale, has been arrested on a charge of altering the assessment roll while in his hands, by which alteration the taxes of some of the citizens of that township were materially increased. The forgery was detected by the first man to whom he applied for the collection of his tax after the alteration was made.

The grist mill of Riker & Adams, at Fentonville, was burned to the ground on the 15th inst.

Improvement in Ingham County.—A ride over a portion of this county a few days since, proved to us, notwithstanding the adversities of the past few years, that the county has made substantial and rapid improvements. Much of the heavy timber has been cut down, many new farms commenced, a number of new buildings, which suggest permanence, prosperity and comfort, erected. Besides, the several villages show a thrift that is gratifying and encouraging.—Lansing Journal.

The Lansing folks are busily preparing for the rush of visitors consequent upon the session of Legislature, which meets on Wednesday next. The railroad from Owosso will afford better facilities for reaching the capital, and it is anticipated the number of strangers visiting the city will be greater than ever before. Cars are now run within ten miles of Lansing, and it is expected that

the railroad will be nearly if not quite finished during the month of January.

The winter term of the Adrian College has opened prosperously. We learn from the Express that 140 students were in attendance. Of this number, 58 are ladies, and 82 gentlemen.

The Ride Guards is the name of a new company just organized at Mt. Clemens. George C. Fletcher is captain.

The members of the bar of the city of Detroit held a meeting recently, to consider the necessity of relieving the Circuit Court of the great amount of business which it is now crowded, that justice is impeded and delayed, both in civil and criminal suits, whilst the lawyers are obliged to multiply costs beyond the limits of their clients. It is proposed to ask the Legislature for a law establishing a Superior Court, such as exists in Buffalo or New York city, for the trial of city suits, with powers equivalent to that of the Circuit Court.

General News.

Barry, the horse tamer, is now in New York. He is about to visit his friends in Ohio first, and then return, when he will give a series of exhibitions and lectures on the horse in that city.

The frigate Niagara, which conveyed the Japanese embassy home to their own country, had reached Java at the last accounts and was received by the Dutch authorities at Batavia with all the honors.

How often is your patience tried on coming to the tea-table and there being obliged to punish yourself by eating yellow, spotted, unwholesome biscuits, cake, &c. You at once say to yourself, what poor Seleratus! why will people longer purchase such an inferior article, when they can, at the same price, purchase D. B. De Land & Co.'s pure, healthful Seleratus. You can get it of your grocer. It is for sale by the principal grocers at wholesale, and is manufactured by D. B. De Land & Co., at the Chemical Works, Fairport, Monroe Co., N. Y.

THE MARKETS.

Breadstuffs.

Money matters are generally improving, and western is gradually working out, as other currency comes in to supply its place.

The flour market here is not active, only the local and city demand to be supplied. The prices given for ordinary lots of good brands of flour ranges from \$4.25 for red to \$4.75 for good extra. Double extra is worth more, and the mills sell their family flour at \$5.25 to \$5.50. Wheat, is held back, and but little offers. The price for red is 95c. White is worth 90c, but of the latter none is offered or ought to be at this time.

Corn—Ars selling in the market at 19c, and the sleighing makes them and corn very plenty. Corn is worth only 35 to 37c on the street, and in any quantity.

Barley—Is selling at \$1 to 1.12 1/2 for 100 lbs and very slow of sale.

Potatoes—Are plenty at 25c for any good kind.

Butter—Is plenty at from 14c to 15c for good fresh.

Eggs—Are selling at 15c per doz.

Apples—During the mild days when sleighing was good, were plenty and sold at 50 to 40c per bu, according to quality.

The New York market for flour is quite active, with great firmness among holders. Extra western is quoted at \$5.35 to 5.65, and choice extra ranges 6 to 7.—Wheat is held at a slight advance over the prices given last week. For red wheat \$1.30 to 1.33 is given, and for white of good samples of western \$1.40 to 1.45.—For very choice Michigan and Kentucky \$1.50 to 1.55 is given. Mixed western corn is selling at 65 to 70c.

The quotations for produce are:

| | | |
|--|--------|-------|
| Extra white wheat flour | \$4.50 | 4.75 |
| Superfine flour | 4.40 | 4.65 |
| White wheat, extra | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| White wheat, No. 1 | 0.90 | 0.90 |
| Red wheat, No. 1 | 0.80 | 0.85 |
| Corn in the street, bush | 0.35 | 0.38 |
| Corn in store, bush | 0.42 | 0.44 |
| Oats, bush | 0.19 | 0.21 |
| Rye, bush | 0.50 | 0.55 |
| Barley, cwt | 1.00 | 1.25 |
| Buckwheat flour 100 lbs | 1.50 | 1.75 |
| Corn meal, cwt | 1.00 | 1.08 |
| Brans, 100 lbs | 5.00 | 9.00 |
| Coarse middlings, 100 lbs | 12.00 | 15.00 |
| Butter, fresh roll 100 lbs | 0.13 | 0.15 |
| Butter in firkin per lb | 0.12 | 0.13 |
| Eggs, doz | 0.15 | 0.16 |
| Potatoes, bush | 0.25 | 0.30 |
| Common sorts 100 bush | 0.20 | 0.25 |
| Beans, 100 bush | 0.62 | 0.65 |
| Apples, green, best qualities 100 bush | 0.30 | 0.35 |
| 2d quality, 100 bush | 0.20 | 0.30 |
| Clover seed, 100 bush | 4.25 | 4.50 |
| Timothy seed, per bush | 3.00 | 3.50 |
| Hay, timothy, 100 tons | 8.00 | 10.00 |
| Hay, marsh, 100 tons | 5.00 | 6.00 |

Live Stock, &c.

The market for live stock is transferred to the market for dead stock. Smith, the butcher, has closed for a short time, to take advantage of the Christmas holidays, and, and to make some improvements in his store, and the market is now crowded with dressed cattle, large and small, dressed mutton in any quantity, and pork. On Thursday last, the fine sleighing and good weather brought forward from long distances, a very large supply of dressed hogs. Dressed beef of good medium quality sells at 4c by the side. Very good well fat beef is worth 4 1/2 to 5c; but the latter price is only given for the very best. Dressed mutton sells at rates ranging from 4 1/2 to 5c per lb. The Southdown sheep killed by the Messrs. Clarke last week averaged 105 lbs each dressed. We took a look at them a few days ago, and they were dressed so as to exhibit their quality in splendid style. The numbers of fine hogs coming into market have a tendency to keep prices down. On Tuesday, a number of good hogs offered, but not over \$4.75 to 5 could be got for them. For the past two days hogs have been coming in from every quarter, and good corn fed pork was to be had at prices ranging from 4 1/2 to 5 1/2 for dressed carcasses, that would range from 250 to 300 pounds. The quality of most of the hogs offering is very good.

Hides—Remain steady at 4 and 4 1/2c. Pelts are unchanged and range in price from 50c to \$1.25; but the latter price is only given for extraordinary heavy. Lard is steady at 11 and 12c.

Rough tallow sells at 6c.

Poultry is very plenty and cheap. Turkeys selling at 40c to 50c per lb, and when sold alive or undressed at 75c.—Geese at 30 to 50c. Fowls and chickens at 30 to 40c per pair.

The Albany and New York market shows a considerable diminution in the receipts of cattle for the past two weeks, and prices of good cattle are firmer and better by at least 1/2 to 3/4c on the live weight. This makes quite a difference to the drover. Prices are looking up. It was about time, for the cattle trade was really discouraging. We note that in the Albany market J. Simmons is reported to have sold 15 Michigan cattle averaging 1,300 lbs at \$50 per head, and 1,500 Smith sold 17 head of Michigan cattle averaging 1,200 lbs each at 3 1/2c live weight. The best cattle offered in the Albany market had 5 1/2c live weight offered for them, but the owner did not take the price, preferring to try the New York market. These were Ohio cattle. The supply in the New York market is light in number compared with what it has been, and the price of first quality beef is given as ranging from 9 1/2 to 10c. Sheep are quoted as in good demand at fair rates. The supply of hogs east seems to be fully equal to the demand.

The Household.

"She looketh well to the ways of her household, and catcheth not the bread of idleness."—PROVERBS.

EDITED BY MRS. L. B. ADAMS.

WINTER LAYS.

BY B. HATHAWAY.

CHRISTMAS ODE.

O'er leagues of show-immantled earth,
The Christmas bells are ringing clear;
Thrice welcome hour, though bleak and drear,
And harbingers of storm and dearth,
In loving smiles, and glowing warmth,
Thou bringest more than summer cheer.

To-night shall Absence and Regret,
Their iron scepter yield to you;
For hearts to old affection true,
Across the stormy years have met,
And eyes, with joy's suffusion wet,
Drink light from kindred eyes anew.

To-night the sire, that feebly bows,
Shall flush with seeming youth the while;
And careless girlhood's happy smile,
Relight its glow on matron brows;
While blissful dream, and loving vows,
Shall many a maiden care beguile.

To-night, from plaint and sorrow-moan,
Shall grief a respite gladly win;
While he who owns no bosom-kin,
Time's wintry mazes threads alone,
Shall start at oft endearing tone;
Brief murmur from the life within.

And musing sad, his heart shall lean
To olden memories, hope embossed;
The latest loved, the early lost,
Perchance are with him all unseen,
From paradise of summer-green,
To soothe his spirit, tempest-tossed.

Or on his deeply visioned eye,
Loom olden landscapes, blooming free,
Where fairest forms flit lovingly;
The while in trust that may not die,
He ponders long each sundered tie,
Or bond more beautiful to be.

Little Prairie Rondo.

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING.

It will be seen that Rustic Nell has left little to be said in the way of old year adieux and new year greetings. In behalf of all she has so kindly remembered, ourselves included, we return grateful thanks and wishes as kind. Most especially do we appreciate her generous thoughtfulness in not forgetting the "typos" in the general distribution of her blessings. "As happy as they deserve," is her qualified and somewhat cautious wish. Well, Nellie, if they get what they deserve for their faithful, patient labors of the past year, there will be three just about as happy fellows as you would care to see. We join you in that wish most heartily. As to the last august personage you mention, we have no objection to his having a happy new year, wherever he may be, but are happy to say that there is no representative of his Satanic Majesty about the FARMER premises. He may be a very necessary appendage to sectional and political papers, especially in times like these, but we believe farmers have very little need of his services.

To all contributors who have so kindly aided in giving variety and interest to the Household of 1860, we return thanks and the kindest wishes of the season, and only hope they will not be so happy as to forget how much a continuance of their favors is desired for 1861. This is your own department, mothers, wives and daughters. You need not fear to talk with each other here, plainly, familiarly, as face to face. It is not the effort to write some great thing that gives interest to communications for these pages. Nobody expects you to get upon stilts when you go about your kitchen work, or to sit in the parlor with a dictionary on your head. Neither is it necessary for you to attempt any such difficult performance when you come into the Household. You will be a great deal more welcome just as you are, supported by your own understandings, and communicating from your own brains instead of quoting from calf bound quartos, duplicates of which are plenty on library shelves and editorial tables. Come in your own way, from your kitchens, your parlors, or your school rooms, and you will be ever welcome.

To all the FARMER readers a Happy New Year.

Messrs. Putnam & Smith, of Detroit, have sent us some more samples of the new holiday books they have received for children. They did not come in time for notice last week, and now we have scarcely more than room to give their titles.

Wanderings in Elf-land, is a pretty little volume of fairy stories and pictures, containing Prince Rudolf's Flower, König Tolv's Bride, The Gray Cat and the Cave of the Winds, The Frost Maiden, Under the Sea, and the Castle on the Hill. It is written by Jane G. Austin.

Sabbath Talks about the Psalms of David, and its companion, *Sabbath Talks about Jesus*, are two pleasantly written little books, to teach very young children to blend reli-

gious motives with their every day actions—to be good for the sake of being good and happy.

The Chapel of St. Mary, is a most romantically religious book, intensely High Church in its theological teachings, and well up to all the clap-trap of the flashiest flash literature in throwing its characters into attitudes and positions, such as drawing them up to their full height, dashing them upon the ground in a storm of passion, stamping their little feet in anger, resting their heads (the heroines) confidently on the shoulders of their masculine friends, fainting, dying faces, necks and arms with blushes on their slightest provocation, and so forth, and so on. It has the regular orthodox old tyrant, drawn to the life, and the pale, meek victim who dies under an impenetrable cloud of mystery, together with some very nice, saintly people who overcome a great deal of evil with good. In a volume of nearly four hundred pages there is perhaps one page devoted to the subject which gives the name to the book, and that has little or nothing to do with the story.

All the above works are published by J. E. Tilton & Co., of Boston, Mass., and for sale by Putnam, Smith & Co., of Detroit.

The Old Year's Farewell, and the New Year's Greeting.

The old year is drawing to a close; his last sigh is heard in the forests—his white shroud is upon the hills!

Like all distinguished personages, the Old Year will have his eulogists and his detractors; far be it from me to be numbered with the latter. No, if I speak of his errors at all, it shall be kindly and charitably; and I will remember his favors with gratitude.

What has he attempted? what has he achieved? What legacy does he leave to his successor? Like all his predecessors he has brought storm and sunshine, summer and winter, the usual amount of wars and tumults, frightful accidents, and distressing casualties—to some famine, to some fullness!

As an Agriculturist, he has been in some places crowned with success; corn, wheat, and the ripened fruits have been poured out in plenty at his bidding—in others he has miserably failed, and is no doubt willing to shrink quietly away to escape the opprobrium which will follow him to his grave, and write out her cruel sentence upon his tombstone—the hard year of 1860. As a Politician, he must bide his time! 1860 may perhaps do justice to his memory, if his immediate predecessor does not. 1776 waited long and patiently for his political character to be vindicated; abandoned by friends and traduced by enemies, for a time all was dark and foreboding—yet the vindication came at last, and many a year has sung his eulogy! So may the "Old Year," with his disheartened children, take courage, for truly and justly shall their sentence be given. As an Artist, a Novelist, and a Poet, he has done, say the critics, passably well. As a mechanic, he has introduced machines of whose value the New Year must tell. As a Savan, his discoveries must meet the judgment of the future. As a Physician, he has killed many, and cured a few. As a Religionist, he has started a few new theories, and recalled from oblivion as many old ones as most of his predecessors!

In fact he has been a busy, bustling fellow, stopping for nothing, caring for nothing but to get through the work assigned him; and if governments were convulsed, sceptres broken, hearts bartered, souls crushed, limbs maimed, lives lost, and the whole world laid waste with one motion of his lips, he would pronounce the word *Fate*, and roll the whole burden from his shoulders as he leaves us forever!

To the farmers of Michigan he has been a bountiful friend, giving liberally of all good gifts. May his successor follow his example.

He has probably done more good and more evil than any others, for he has had one day longer to do it in; in short, my sisters, it is *Leap Year*, our year of privileges, of long talked of and long conceded rights! And how has it been improved, and with what result? Our sister Dorothy, with characteristic daring, has tried, in her own way the value of those long boasted privileges, and what has she got as her reward? A great deal of censure from the men—never a word of sympathy from the women! She wished to know if women's rights were more than a delusion, that her sisters might profit by the knowledge; and if ever poor woman suffered for her temerity, that woman is Dorothy. First came Bachelor, with his mutterings against the whole female race; and then Benedict, with his grave rebukes, satirical rhymes, and last but not least, his philosoph-

ical conclusions, which must have nearly annihilated the poor girl. In fine, Dorothy may be considered as a martyr to her spirit of investigation.

From Dorothy's blunders and calamities let us draw a warning conclusion. We see what has happened to one of our number, and may pretty safely infer what would be the fate of any other who should try so rash a scheme. If you advertise, like Dorothy, her fate will be yours; if you go boldly, in person, to one of your own selection, you will be an unfeminine monstrosity, for whom no name can be found in our English vernacular.

Well, were the privilege really ours, it would be at best but a doubtful good. Where there are so many chances of making bad worse, we submit to the philosophy.

"Rather bears the ills we have,
Than fly to others that we know not of."
And if the change is to be made, better far that the responsibility rest on other than feminine tongues. Let Leap Year, then, be laid at rest, with ghosts and witches, and other unavailable rubbish.

Now, brothers, we well know you have been paying the very best attention, expecting a word of confession from me in regard to the weakness and folly of the sisters; and you shall not be disappointed. We are not, however, half so vain and worthless as you seem to think; we have our faults, have not you? We are a trifle vain or so, just a trifle; are not you afflicted the same way? We do like our ease, preferring plenty and leisure to toil and penury; can you wonder at our choice? We are not as sincere, as truthful, as unworldly as we should be, we own it, not without shame; but (in the true spirit of sisterly kindness we say it,) we have not had a good example set before us. Brothers and sisters—sons and daughters of the farmers of Michigan: Let the fashionable world slander and defame as it will, let us pause ere we echo its verdicts or form our opinions of each other by the conduct of its members. Remember, always, that the woman who speaks evil of the other sex, slanders her own father; and the man who laughs derisively at women as a whole, mocks his mother. Let there be peace, then, among us; there are some good on both sides, but it is probably difficult to determine which sex has the most faults. To purify society, we must begin at the very foundation; the blood is bad, or there would be no eruptions on the skin. The evil is within, not without. Sinful we are, and have been ever since Adam and Eve made fig-leaf aprons. Every order of society, and every period of time has its peculiar sins. As civilization advances, the virtues and vices of savage life pass away, and others take their place; as wealth and population increase, we wander farther and farther from the ways of our simple ancestors, in some things growing better, and in others worse. Their faults differ from ours, as ours will from those of the next generation. Meanwhile, a solemn question arises: what part have we in the work of the future and the wrongs of the present?

As a class, farmers' sons and daughters are prone to look above the occupations of their fathers and mothers. This, it may be, arises from their associating coarseness and discomfort with that profession. When our fathers were young, it was not as easy a matter to get an education as it is now, and many of them grew up in ignorance. They could farm after a fashion of their own, it is true, without much knowledge; they could not be lawyers or physicians. Hence there were few educated farmers, and ignorance and coarseness were associated with them, as refinement and knowledge was with the other professions. This is, in a measure, passing away, but not in the right way; instead of setting ourselves to rise in our profession, we are constantly trying to get out of it.

This ought not to be; let farmers become refined, and their work cannot degrade them. Were one half the clerical profession, two-thirds the lawyers, three-fourths the doctors, and all the loafers, turned into respectable farmers, the world would be the better for it. We can see no remedy however, for all these wrongs, but a reformation of public opinion, and that is not likely to come, except by individual exertion. Let each sex cultivate the little good sense it may possess, and vanity and spurious refinement will, in time, be done away. Let us review the old year, that we may be wiser for the new—for which I now tender my hand to you in hearty, honest greeting. A Happy New Year to you all—a New Year rich in improvement; a life of usefulness, and a death without remorse!

A Happy New Year to every reader of the FARMER, young and old; may their New Year's dinner be sweetened by the recollection that the editor and the printer have received their dues! May blessings descend upon them in the guise of fat herds and flocks of sheep.

tile fields—in fine, may the New Year be to them as good as the old.

A Happy New Year to the contributors, Scriptural Jamie, Mellifluous Hathaway, Patient Benedict, Belligerent Dorothy, Mary Wilson, and Sorrowful Mabel—aye, a Happy New Year to each and all. May their voices long gladden the household, and however much they may differ, may there be ever a patient soul among them, to put away anger with soft words. A Happy New Year to the Editors; may heaven grant her patience, for she needs it much. May she have skill to divine dark sayings and read unintelligible manuscripts. May she be gifted with keen vision and a ready tongue, whereby to detect errors and punish offenders, (may I never be of that number); a Happy New Year to her, with many returns, and final admittance into a heaven where delinquent subscribers cease to trouble and editors and editors are at rest! A Happy New Year to the Editor; may his days be prolonged; though he dotes on fine cattle, may he never be called a brute; though he plead more earnestly than ever for the sheep, may no one dare call him a mutton head!

A Happy New Year to everybody—even the Typos and Printer's Devil; may they all be as happy as they deserve, and be strengthened for their duties by a New Year's dinner, in which there shall be no mistakes!

RUSTIC NELL.

Noted People of the Bible.

BY SLOW JAMIE.

NUMBER THIRTY-FOUR.

Jonathan Concluded.—When Saul's sentinels brought him in the news of the strange and bloody confusion among the Philistines, the roll was called and Jonathan with his armor bearer found absent. Saul then consulted the priest by Urim and Thummim, but the runner still coming in with more exciting news, he broke off his devotions, and sallied out to the field of action. He found the enemy still in confusion, fighting away rank and rank, and company against company.

The lords of the Philistines were active, intelligent fellows, and as it appears did their duty well that day, for "the battle passed over to Beth Aven," i. e., they kept up a running fight that far. They would rally and form their own men, on whom they could depend, and endeavor to force the allies back to the fight, but they were completely panic stricken, and tramping down all in their way, destroyed more Philistines than the Israelites did. From Gibeah to Beth Aven is better than twelve miles, so that the slaughter must have been immense. It would have been greater still but for the imprudence of Saul. But at all events the effect of it in breaking the spirits of the Philistines, and giving courage to Israel was incalculable.

We hear no more of the Philistines for above twenty years. During that time, there were, no doubt, many battles between them and the Israelites, but they are not recorded. At this time they were emboldened to make the attack, and advancing into the tribe of Judah, encamped in Ephes Dammim, or the 'Bloody Run.' Here both armies seemed each afraid of the other, for they stood on two hill sides, with a valley between them, and threw missiles at one another.

Here a giant advancing out of the ranks of the Philistines, boldly challenged any Israelite to come forward and end the strife by a duel. He was six cubits high; taking the cubit for eighteen inches, he was nine feet high, but taking the royal cubit for the measure, he was better than eleven feet. If his whole armor were in proportion to his spear and coat of mail, he carried about three hundred pounds, a weight which no humane man would put on a common horse. For forty days he came out every morning, and in opprobrious language defied the army of Israel. Once more Israel was terrified with the Anakims. But where was now the genius of Jonathan, that he did not meet the common foe. It is probable he did not feel the divine impulse he experienced on the former occasion, Providence having another to perform the work. Certain it is, he was not wanting in zeal for the public cause, since, when David killed Goliath, he was so forward to reward him. Day after day, this mountain of a man, clothed in brass, came out and challenged the Hebrews. They had rejoiced in a king because he was head and shoulders higher than the people, but now the enemy produces a man, before whom their king was a pigmy.

While he is swaggering about, a young shepherd comes from the country with provisions, and offers to engage the giant. Saul very judiciously shows him the risk he is to run, but still he is willing to go, and as it will be only the loss of a single life, Saul accepts the offer. eat is the indignation of the

Philistine to see a man of ordinary size, and youthful appearance, venture to meet him.—He approaches foaming and swearing at the temerity of a man that would meet him un- even. The Philistines look on with interest, expecting to see him split the Israelite's head with a single thrust of his spear. The Hebrews watch with palpitating hearts, hardly knowing whether to hope or fear. David is seen to wield his sling. The giant sinks and rolls his great length on the ground. The Philistines remember the terrific carnage of Michmash, and determine not to make the same mistake, by prolonging the fight. But although they fled immediately the pursuit was kept up with such spirit, to their very gates, that the whole way was strewn with the dead and wounded.

David had been promised many rewards, but out of them all the envious Saul endeavored to cheat him. But Jonathan, as far as he was able, fulfilled the promises of Saul.—He made him a present forthwith of his own princely robes, arms and armor, and during all the persecution David endured he was his fast friend. Indeed Jonathan gains as much in our eyes by rewarding this victory, as though he had gained it himself.

Ten years or thereabout passed around and Jonathan's head is gray, not so much with age, although he is about sixty years old, but with trouble. His father had lately been guilty of some crimes he was ignorant of, but more that he was aware of. The Philistines collect for another grand struggle. Saul, four score years of age, had slipped away in the night to consult a wicked woman, and had come back down east and weary; yet still he led his forces into the field. The Philistines, taught by former experience, took no strangers with them into the field. They would not even permit the king to take David's little band as body guard, lest the fight of Michmash might be renewed, at Gilboa.—Their forces were strong, and their order good. They advanced boldly and attacked the centre where Saul commanded. He was soon turned in flight. Jonathan, who probably commanded in one of the flanks, hastened to his relief. But it was in vain. Strong as was his arm, and true as was his heart, the 'beauty of Israel' fell, and when he fell, hope was gone. Saul fled and committed suicide. The army was routed and completely scattered. And the inhabitants of the valley made their escape from all their cities and left them to be occupied by the enemy. David did not forget his kindness. He honored his memory with an elegy, he buried his ashes under a tree, and his son was one of those who sat at his table.

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